

**Utah Department of Transportation
Utah Transportation Commission
Staff Update Meeting
March 20, 2014**

The Utah Transportation Commission convened in a Staff Update Meeting with UDOT staff on March 20, 2014, in the Clarion Suites 2nd Floor Conference Room, 1239 South Main Street, St. George, Utah, at 4:11 p.m. In attendance were:

Commission Members: Jeff Holt, Kent Millington, Meghan Holbrook, Wayne Barlow, Dannie McConkie, Naghi Zeenati, Gayle McKeachnie.

UDOT Staff and others: Carlos Braceras, Shane Marshall, Jason Davis, Cory Pope, Bill Lawrence, Bob Pelly, Linda Hull, Becky Bradshaw, Nathan Lee, Rick Torgerson, Kevin Kitchen, Monte Aldridge, Dana Meier, Kirk Thornock, Jim McConnell, Brandon Anderson, LeAnn Abegglen, Dick Kohler, Ed Cooper, Brett Jensen, Joe Wooley.

Welcome and Review Agenda

Carlos Braceras welcomed the group and reviewed the Staff Update meeting agenda.

Legislative Session Review and Fiscal Report

Linda Hull reviewed the 2014 Legislative Session that recently ended. She talked about several bills, including UDOT Priority Bills that passed and UDOT Priority Bills that failed. She focused on eminent domain bills/issues and traffic and driving bills. Becky Bradshaw provided a 2015 fiscal summary from the 2014 Legislative Session. She reviewed UDOT's programs and the sources used to fund each program, and highlighted Construction Management and Transportation Investment, which are funds the Commission programs at the workshop. She noted that the General Funds for Construction Management were taken away completely this year.

Uintah Basin Environmental Study

Shane Marshall gave an update on the Uintah Basin Environmental Study. He said an economic study was completed about eight months ago and the environmental process was started, so it's time to let the local entities take the project and move it forward through the NEPA process. UDOT will become a "silent" partner, and the county will be the lead agency going forward. Carlos Braceras noted that there was intent language in some legislation by Senator Van Tassell continue to fund this. He also said he talked to County Commissioner McKee about partnering with CIB, and that Commissioner McKee would likely be coming to the Commission at an upcoming meeting to make a request.

Layton City Update

Shane Marshall said this item has to do with the Hill Field interchange. He referred to maps of the interchange that were distributed and explained the solution that Region One has come up with to eliminate significant congestion there. The concept is a modified diamond with a ThrU Turn corridor. The unique thing about this is that one lane underneath the structure

would go behind a column, which is atypical for Utah. The city requested a SPUI but there isn't enough money available for that option. Mr. Braceras stated that Mayor Stevenson of Layton would be attending the meeting tomorrow regarding this interchange. Mr. Marshall said a SPUI would work better and would typically be recommended, if UDOT had the money available. There was additional discussion regarding Thru Turns.

Mall Drive in St. George

Rick Torgerson introduced the item and then turned the time over to Dana Meier for the presentation. Mr. Meier reported on how topographically challenged St. George is. He then discussed the two options being considered for an underpass, one being at 1680 East and the other at Mall Drive, and the challenges and costs associated with both options. Mr. Torgerson mentioned that they do have money to start a scoping level document, and Mr. Meier stated that timing is what's driving the need to have this completed before the widening of I-15 between MP 8 and MP 10.

SR-18/Bluff Street and St. George Boulevard Intersection

Rick Torgerson talked about the completed EA for Bluff Street and the innovative solutions that have been looked at to relieve some of the traffic issues on Bluff Street at St. George Boulevard. He referred to the handouts, which included maps of 'Free Right + 3 NB + 3SB Through Lanes' and 'Super Street ROW' options. He talked about the impacts to businesses in the area and the funding that is currently available for the project.

I-15 Safety Study Results

Monte Aldridge reviewed the results of a safety study completed on I-15, from the Arizona border to the Juab County line, which looked at fatal and severe crash injuries, crash rates, and the causes of the accidents. The primary causes of the accidents were median crossovers, commercial motor vehicle related, wildlife related, and wet pavement. He showed a heat map of wild animal related crashes on I-15 in Region 4 from 2008 to 2012, and then showed a map of where fencing constructed in 2012 between milepost 34 and milepost 62, and the reduction of wild animal crashes from 2008 to 2012. In 2012, wild animal crashes decreased 52% from 2011. Mr. Aldridge noted that the worst area for crashes was on I-15 was north of I-70, from Dog Valley to Baker canyon. There is a project on the TIF list to address issues there. Other information was shared on the types of crashes at Dog Valley Pass.

Salt Lake County – I-15 Planning Study

Nathan Lee referred to and reviewed the handouts that were distributed regarding I-15 project priorities in Salt Lake County. He said they would be coming to the Commission next month hoping to make some changes in the future to what is currently planned. He gave a brief synopsis of what those changes are. A North/South study was done in 2011 to look at what could be done to address congestion problems on I-15 in specific areas. There were some things previously done at I-15/I-215/7200 South, but they didn't totally address all the problems. Mr. Lee then discussed the improvements the study suggested (which are listed in the handout), and the complications they encountered when trying to do the design on some of the improvements. He went into further detail on the I-15/I-215 interchange improvements that they believe will be the best solution, the funding package options, and the peak hour delay reductions on I-15 that

would happen as a result of the improvements. He said the challenges are there, but they can make a significant difference today.

Access Utah County

Shane Marshall said an Access Utah County item will be on the agenda tomorrow and three projects have a need for additional monies: Pioneer Crossing, Geneva Road, and SR-92. They are looking to use \$6.3 million of TIF funds to add to those projects, which will close out the Access Utah County projects.

Open Discussion

There was no open discussion.

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

LeAnn Abegglen, Commission Secretary